OPPOSED to CT HB06618

To the Members of the Committee on Human Services:

I am writing this testimony to express my **complete opposition to HB 6618**: AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR CERTAIN PERSONS RECEIVING ABORTION CARE AND RELATED SERVICES IN CONNECTICUT.

The myriad problems with the bill, such as what is a woman with complications to do if she had returned to her home state, the lack of a clear definition of "related services," in the bill, the use of the higher income standard which was intended to provide prenatal care to women in need (and which certainly is not needed if the pregnancy is aborted), and the misleading language about seeking federal funds (when those funds are not available to pay for abortions, thus making the cost 100% the responsibility of taxpayers of our state) are enough to make this bill unworthy of support.

But the most important point is that **Connecticut taxpayers are not responsible to pay for the medical services of people who are not citizens of Connecticut.** It is especially an egregious overreach on the part of abortion advocates who want to advertise Connecticut as an abortion destination, enriching those who provide abortions at the expense of Connecticut citizens.

I don't want my taxes to pay for any abortions, and I am forced to tolerate the fact that over \$4 million is spent on abortions for Connecticut citizens each year. Under no circumstances should any of our tax money be used to pay for citizens from other states to come to Connecticut. There are so many needs in Connecticut, which if addressed, could raise up the poor and support healthy families and communities in Connecticut. This is how I want my taxes spent, not in creating a gruesome tourism industry which does nothing to improve the lives of the poor or any of the people of Connecticut.

I oppose bill HB 6618, and I beg you to stop all consideration of this bill in this committee today.

Sincerely,

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